

# Montenegrins Still Seek Peace, Austria Asserts

## THOMPSON BILL TO GRAND JURY

Swann Is Ready with Evidence Against Investigators.

## SENATOR GETS CITY CLUB AID

Money Proffered to Continue Inquiry Into Corporation Graft Charges.

District Attorney Swann made enough headway with his investigation of the expense accounts of the Thompson committee yesterday to convince him that, if certain documentary evidence which he seeks comes to his hand by to-morrow morning, he will be able to present the matter to the grand jury within twenty-four hours.

His assistant, William Harman Black, discovered yesterday that one item of \$700.67, sworn to by Eugene D. Miller, auditor of the Baltimore, as having been charged to "restaurant," was in reality made up of a dozen miscellaneous items, among which was \$120.20 for "newstand theatre tickets."

After checking up the dozen items, Assistant District Attorney Black learned that they were charged to "restaurant" by the order of "a representative of the committee." Here are the items:

Laundry	\$50.79
Telephone	240.45
Telegram	240.45
Baggage	230.75
Messengers	8.65
Taxicab	31.80
Newstand theatre tickets	120.20
Valise	5.50
Barber	5.50
Stenographer	11.45
Express baggage	1.84
Stamps	5.50
Total	\$700.67

## AUDITOR AID IN INQUIRY

Mr. Black was assisted yesterday in his examination of the hotel accounts by Mr. Miller, the auditor, and Deacon Murphy, of counsel for the Baltimore. The latter agreed to turn over to District Attorney Swann on Monday a complete set of accounts, showing how every penny of the committee's money was spent and the names of the individuals who signed for the various expenditures. While the original paper slip vouchers have been destroyed, according to the hotel custom, after sixty days, there is no reason Mr. Black believes, to question the accuracy of the names as they appear on the card index system kept by the Baltimore.

On the vouchers turned in for audit by the Controller by those officials for expenses other than those fixed by law is a list of rules for "finance law" regulating the manner of filing such bills. Among other things, these rules require that "each statement of accounts must be verified by the person presenting the same, to the effect that it is just, true and correct, and that no part thereof has been paid except as stated therein, and that no charges of an indefinite character will be allowed, and all charges for purchases must be accompanied by sub-vouchers."

A request will probably be sent to Charles Hotelling, sergeant-at-arms, who is said to have drawn the bills, to go to the District Attorney's office to tell what he knows about alleged wrong classification of the hotel items. Mr. Hotelling is a member of the Senate, notified District Attorney Swann yesterday that he would appear to-morrow to answer all questions regarding his alleged error of erroneous charges.

## WOOD INQUIRY GOES ON

District Attorney Swann issued this statement relative to the grand jury investigation of former Public Service Commissioner Robert Colgate Wood: "This investigation of the hotel expenses of the Thompson committee will in no degree interfere with the work in the office of Assistant District Attorney O'Malley with respect to the charges made against ex-Public Service Commissioner Wood. That matter is being investigated fully, and will continue to receive prompt and careful attention at my hands."

"The investigation of the expenses of the members of the Thompson committee will not embarrass or interfere with the work of the Thompson committee or any other committee of the Legislature."

## WON'T BE FRAMED UP, THOMPSON DECLARES

"I don't mind being investigated, but I don't want to be subjected to a frame-up," Thompson declared yesterday.

This was one of the most striking sentences uttered by Senator George F. Thompson at the monthly luncheon at the City Club yesterday. And when he finished his speech, which was applauded throughout, several members of the club arose and in unequivocal language declared they believed he was being "jabbed" and that if Speaker Sweet and the Assembly decided to hold up the investigation of the public service corporations by withholding the needed additional appropriation public spirited citizens of New York City would raise the necessary funds by subscription.

Senator Thompson, pleased beyond measure, in reply to this offer said:

## Goethals Cannot Set Date for Reopening Panama Canal

Governor Declares Permanent Channel Must First Be Assured—Reports Progress in Work, but Refuses to Make Any Prediction.

Panama, Jan. 22.—Owing to uncertainty regarding the movement of slides in Gaillard Cut, the Panama Canal is not ready to be reopened, nor can a prediction as to its prospective reopening be made, according to a statement issued today by Major General Goethals, Governor of the Zone, which reads as follows:

"It is not intended to reopen the canal until a safe and practicable permanent channel is reasonably assured. This cannot be assured at present, although the operations of the dredges during the last four months have shown that they are able, when not interrupted in the work by the passage of ships or the clearing of the channel for navigation, to gain on the slides, and it is desired to have a reasonable assurance that they can maintain this gain even with the delay from the above causes."

"It is hoped that before long better information on the two main controlling features will be available. The large mass of rock at the base of Gold Hill, on the east bank, is being carefully observed. If the materials behind it move northwardly, as is not unlikely, one danger of interruption to the canal will be removed."

"The other feature is the rate of motion that will result in the west slide when the dredges attack its face, as will shortly be done. It is believed that the dredges can keep well ahead of any possible motion in this mass, provided the east bank is quiescent, or nearly so."

"As soon as this office feels that sufficient information on these two points is at hand to justify it a prediction will be made. In the meantime, it is recommended that the canal be not considered in the routing of shipping. The work of the restoration of the canal is, however, proceeding most favorably. The office has in mind the desire of commerce to resume navigation through the canal, and as long notice as possible will be given to shippers in order that preparations for such routing may be adequate."

This statement is the result of exhaustive investigations and studies made by a special board, composed of Lieutenant Colonel J. J. Morrow, Commander Cone and W. G. Comber, resident engineer.

## A TEN-MINUTE SHERLOCK

Patrolman Makes Speed Record in Arresting Negro as Slayer.

While the 8 o'clock platoon was lined up in the West Twentieth Street police station ready to go on duty yesterday morning there was received from Headquarters a description of Billie Burke, a negro charged with having just murdered Joseph Drain, another negro, of 140 West Third-second Street. Within ten minutes Broderick, the youngest patrolman on the squad, was congratulated by Inspector Paurot for capturing the fugitive.

This was a new record for speed in the police department. Broderick had just left the line-up when he saw Burke on Eighth Avenue and suspected that he was the accused man. Finding that he carried a revolver, with one chamber recharged, he put the negro under arrest. The police say that Burke immediately confessed to the murder.

## LINER, TORN IN CRASH, STAGGERS BACK TO PIER

Large Passenger List Moved Brazos Captain to Quit Trip.

The New York and Porto Rico steamer *Brazos* docked at her pier in Brooklyn at 9 o'clock last night with a jagged hole in her starboard side, received in a collision yesterday afternoon twenty-three miles southeast of Scotland Light with the coasting steamer *Suffolk*, of the Coastwise Transportation Company, of Boston. The *Suffolk* also ran aground, and was hoisted out of the water by the tug *Quarantine*. The *Brazos* carried 171 passengers and a crew of 130.

The *Brazos* came to port under her own steam. Officials of the company said last night repairs probably would be completed so she could sail again for San Juan on Monday. Captain Harston thought he could have made San Juan without turning back, but decided not to take chances with so large a passenger list.

Steaming along slowly in a dense fog persons aboard the *Brazos* were startled by the shriek of a whistle. Five minutes later the black hulk of the *Suffolk* crashed head on into the *Brazos*. The coaster veered off and strode by until informed that the *Brazos* needed no assistance.

## STABBED FROM BEHIND; RUNS 4 BLOCKS; DIES

Victim, with Brother, Near Home When Attacked.

Wearing no hat or coat, Arthur Stanton, of 1209 Southern Boulevard, The Bronx, stepped out to buy some cigarettes last night. While talking with his brother, Herbert, he was attacked by three unidentified men, who stabbed him.

Stanton ran four blocks to a drug store at 1300 Intervale Avenue. He fell dead against the counter, to the terror of several women in the store. Detective Captain Wines and a squad of men from the Bronx Bureau searched the cellars in the neighborhood for the assailants of the murdered man.

## CAT SAILS 3,000 MILES TO REJOIN HIS SHIP

Races Off Liner and Regains Berth Lost by Spree.

The American liner *St. Paul* sailed yesterday afternoon for Liverpool, carrying 240 passengers and Joseph Chamblin—the ship's cat. Joseph, when the *St. Paul* was in Liverpool, decided to see the city. Judging from the scratches on his nose, he did the town and he missed the boat and was brought back by the New York.

He was the first one down the gang-plank when the ship docked yesterday. Without waiting for customs examination or to inquire for messages, Joseph raced for the *St. Paul*. He arrived just in time to start back to Liverpool.

## BR-T-T-T-T-T-T-T-T-T-T

Seattle, Jan. 22.—Richardson, Alaska, sixty miles from Fairbanks, reported 80 degrees below zero to-day, according to dispatches to-day from the Far North territory.

## VILLA DENIES MURDER ORDER

Pledges Punishment for "Brutes" Who Killed Americans.

## OFFICER BRINGS NOTE TO BORDER

Mexican Bandits Admit Slaughtering United States Ranchers.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]  
El Paso, Tex., Jan. 22.—Bearing a message from General Francisco Villa to the American people, Major Theodor Prieto, of Villa's army, arrived in El Paso to-night. The message from Villa sends greetings to the American people and says that Villa and his followers have learned with horror of the killing of eighteen American citizens by bandits at Santa Ysabel. Villa repudiates any connection with that act, declares that he not only had no part in it, but knew nothing of it until a few days ago at El Paso.

"I wish to say to the American people," the message said, "that I had no part in that frightful tragedy. It was the work of brutes. I pledge my word to the people of the United States that I shall not rest until I have apprehended every member of that murderous band and have dealt with them as they deserve."

The message from Villa says he would give full guarantee to all foreigners in any territory in which he or his authorized followers operated and that no harm would come to any Americans or other foreigners who respected the rights of Mexicans and attended to their own affairs.

To send the message to the border Villa, at El Paso, called for volunteers, telling them the mission probably would mean death. Major Prieto was one of a hundred who volunteered.

Bernardo and Federico Duran, Mexican cattle thieves, have confessed to the killing of Bert Akers, an American ranchman, of Ysleta, Tex., yesterday at San Lorenzo, Chihuahua, just below the boundary line, and will be executed to-morrow morning, according to an announcement made to-night by Andreas Garcia, Mexican Consul here. Three others who are said to have been implicated in the killing are still at large, but their arrest and punishment have been demanded by United States officials.

Akers' body, which was identified by friends and relatives in Juarez, is to-night in El Paso. Akers came here from Cave City, Ky., but had been a ranchman near Ysleta for about eight years. He was twenty-five years old and leaves a wife and three children. His murder by Mexicans has intensified the anti-Mexican feeling along the border, which already was bitter. This feeling threatens to cause further trouble along the Mexican border, as a number of Americans are reported to be threatening reprisals on the Mexicans.

## MEXICAN OFFICER SPOILED

Juan Barrios, the Mexican officer who accompanied Akers and Douglas Downs to the Duran ranch house, and the only one of the trio who was armed, is being held in the Juarez Jail on the same charge that has been made against the two Mexican murderers, but he is not under sentence of death. Efforts are being made by Americans to get his release. He was wounded by a bullet as he lay in bed to-day at the home of Mrs. Murphy, told the story of the shooting.

The cows, he said, were located at the Duran house and had been re-branded and were disguised in other ways. Four Mexicans appeared on the roof, Downs said, and began shooting at Akers and him. Downs fled across an irrigated field, mounted on a pony. Akers left his horse and tried to escape on foot, but was shot in the back.

Soldiers Shoot at Mexicans.

When two Mexican cavalrymen, fully armed, attempted to cross to the El Paso side at the Stanton Street international bridge this afternoon they were halted by United States soldiers. One of the Mexicans drew a pistol, and the American soldiers opened fire on them. The Mexicans, when halted, said:

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## LEAGUES JOIN FOR DEFENCE

Robert Bacon to Head Campaign for Preparedness.

## GARRISON PLAN IS INDORSED

Four Ex-Cabinet Members Urge Reform to Security League.

Washington, Jan. 22.—An indorsement of Secretary Garrison's efforts toward enlargement of the nation's military forces was voted to-day by the National Security League, with the reservations that the regular mobile army should be even greater than that contemplated in the War Department plan, and that adequate national defence would depend ultimately upon "universal obligatory military training and service." A greater building programme for the navy than has been outlined by the Navy Department was urged as essential in another resolution adopted.

Steps to coordinate the work of the various organizations seeking greater armament was indorsed, and it was understood to-night that definite plans had been made for a general consolidation of such organizations in a defence league, with Robert Bacon, ex-Secretary of State, as its president. Besides the National Security League, societies expected to enter the new organization include the Navy League, the Army League, the American Defence Society, the Aero Club of America and many others which have joined in the movement for preparedness.

Wickersham for Universal Service.

Adoption of the resolutions followed indorsement of Secretary Garrison's programme as a first step toward adequate preparedness by Elihu Root and Henry L. Stimson, both former Secretaries of War in Republican administrations. At a banquet to-night, concluding the three-day meeting of the league, George W. Wickersham, Attorney General in President Taft's Cabinet, advocated universal military service and immediate repeal of the law under which the national guard would be called into service in advance of volunteers.

Other speakers at the banquet were Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, ranking Republican member of the Foreign Relations Committee, who discussed "America's Danger," and George Haven Putnam, of New York.

A set of resolutions, drafted by a committee of which Luke E. Wright, ex-Secretary of War, was chairman, were adopted almost unanimously. They were in part:

"Be it resolved, that the defence of the United States depends on an adequate navy and a national army founded upon a system of universal obligatory military training and service. This system must be wholly under the discipline and control of the national authorities. We deprecate all steps which tend to obstruct or postpone the adoption of such a universal system."

Four Divisions in Army.

"That the National Security League indorses the efforts of Secretary Garrison to obtain an increase in the regular army, the correction of our faulty enlistment law, the establishment of an adequate regular army reserve and the accumulation of an adequate supply of ammunition, artillery and material, but we believe that in addition to the proposed quota of coast artillery and auxiliary troops the mobile regular army within the United States should comprise at least four complete infantry divisions, as recommended by the War College report of 1915."

"That the National Security League recommends the authorization by Congress of a council of national defence, as set forth in House Bill No. 1833 of the first session of the Sixty-third Congress, commonly known as the Hobson bill, for the purpose of securing more harmonious cooperation between the executive and legislative branches of the government."

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## Teuton Hammer Welds Allies on Land and Sea

Montenegro's Fate Stiffens Italy, While France and Britain Refuse to Meet Blood and Iron with Rose-water and Paper.

By J. L. GARVIN.  
[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
[Copyright 1916—The Tribune Ass'n.]

London, Jan. 22.—Montenegro's fate arouses Italy to fresh action and adds another proof that Germany only rivets the Grand Alliance by hammering it. We have had the French Premier, with his advisory staff, in Downing Street and at Whitehall. The meeting between the governing heads of two free peoples is as important as the Kaiser's more spectacular descents on Vienna.

The Allies' War Council in London doubtless has taken a wider view than some previous conferences held to decide specific issues in circumstances of military urgency. Now the methods of this year's operations on all fronts and at sea must be thoroughly discussed and settled, and, above all, coordinated.

The Allies, considering the present state of the war, must cope more vigorously with the problem of getting nearer to victory. No one meeting of the present kind can bring forth a cut and dried plan of ending Armageddon. The matter can be managed only by frequent interchanges of views at repeated meetings.

In these representatives of Russia and Italy must participate, and, as a rule, Paris obviously will be the centre of decision. For many reasons, however, it is especially vital to maintain the closest working unity between Great Britain and France, for the hardest pressure of the prolonged struggle bears upon our neighbors. Those most concerned will find the means of shortening the ordeal and hastening victory.

"We are more prepared to subordinate our own views to theirs when points of difference arise, and this is still the governing factor in the military conduct of the struggle. We have never done this for any other country in the course of our obstinate and not unsuccessful history, but we are delighted to give this unique honor, and, to this extent, the leadership, to incomparable France."

Our neighbors, on their side, know well that but for Britain's thoroughness in doing ten times more on land than the Entente Cordiale strictly contemplated the German conquest would have swept all Europe from

## HOUSE, TACITURN, PUZZLES FRENCH

Entrance and Exit of Wilson's Envoy as Noiseless as His Conversation, Paris Finds.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]  
Paris, Jan. 22.—Colonel E. M. House, President Wilson's personal representative, who reached Paris yesterday afternoon by train—his arrangements for coming by automobiles from Boulogne having broken down at the last minute—was on view at the American Embassy at noon to-day. His visit at this time has aroused much more interest than on any previous occasion. Whereas, nine months ago he passed through Paris without the French press noticing either his arrival or his departure, this time, there was a large delegation of French newspaper men and photographers at the embassy. But, like the Americans, the Frenchmen had to be content with little more than a minute study of Colonel House's last-minute and immobile countenance. He was asked by the Frenchmen if he would say one or two words especially intended for the French people, but he refused. The Frenchmen were distinctly disappointed and crestfallen. The only information extracted from Colonel House was:

"I talked over the British blockade question with Ambassadors Page and Sherer, and saw some members of the government in London."

"Did you see Sir Edward Grey?" There was an obstinate silence.

"I leave Paris to-morrow for Switzerland," Colonel House volunteered, "and from there go first to Berlin and then to Vienna. I shall be back here in about ten days, and shall remain here a week or ten days before I go to London for another week. I expect to sail for America from Falmouth on the Rotterdam on February 19."

"Will you go to Italy?"

"Probably not."

"Will you see members of the government in Berlin and Vienna?"

"I hope so."

"Have you seen members of the government here?"

"No."

"Will you see them when you return?"

"Probably."

"Do you see any difference in France and England since your last visit?"

"No."

"Do you find any special interest in England in any particular problems of the war?"

"No."

Colonel House's entrance and exit were as colorless as his conversation. He slipped in on rubber heels and faded away like a shadow when the light goes down.

## MAKE PEACE QUICKLY, TEUTONS TELL BELGIUM

Inspired Newspaper Urges Little Kingdom to Abandon Allies.

London, Jan. 22.—An Exchange dispatch from Amsterdam states that the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, discussing the possibility of a separate peace between Germany and Belgium, says that as long as Belgium has not signed the London agreement regarding the making of a separate peace she is free to do as her interests command.

The newspaper is quoted as adding that Belgium until now has been considered by the German Chancellor as an object of exchange and that sensible Belgians ought to be told not to wait too long or Belgium will be considered as a good price.

The Amsterdam dispatch says that this article has caused a sensation in Germany, and that it is believed to have been inspired from official sources.

## 3 DROWN AS LINER SINKS

Four Wounded Sailors Among Sixteen Rescued from Dutch Vessel.

London, Jan. 22.—The Dutch steamer *Apollo*, 799 tons, was sunk last night near Gallipoli Lightship, according to a Central News dispatch from Flushing.

The Princess Juliana rescued sixteen of the crew and landed them at Flushing, four of them being wounded. Three of the crew had been drowned. The British steamer *Trematon*, 2,665 tons, has also been sunk. The crew has been landed.

SEABOARD F.L.A. LTD. 210 P. M.—De luxe compartment car train to Fla. Quickest. Fast. Seaboard Air Line Ry. 11:15 P. M. way—Adv.

## DISARMAMENT IS UNDER WAY

SAYS VIENNA

Time Extension Granted for Compliance with Terms.

## KING NICHOLAS REACHES ITALY

Troops Falling Back on City of Scutari, in Albania.

London, Jan. 22.—The Montenegrin situation remains somewhat clouded in view of the conflicting statements that come, respectively, from Teutonic and Allied quarters. Vienna declares that the Montenegrins are proceeding with the laying down of their arms, as was agreed upon, but that the difficulties of communication, together with other factors, are making the process a slow one.

On the other hand, there come repeated denials from Montenegrin sources that the Montenegrins have capitulated, one official statement from Rome even declaring that no negotiations preliminary to peace with Austria were even entered into.

"The Austro-Hungarian Official Press Bureau," says the Overseas Agency dispatch from Berlin, "announces that the laying down of arms, as agreed upon by the Montenegrin government, is meeting with difficulties, and that the general disarming of the Montenegrins will be delayed, this being due principally to the long distances over which the soldiers have to travel and to the bad communications."

"The Press Bureau also declares that the delay is due in part to the national peculiarities of the Montenegrin people, who, ignoring the general situation, do not yet know whether they are expected by their government to continue the war on their own account."

## Time Extension Granted.

"The Austro-Hungarian government," the Press Bureau adds, "appreciating these circumstances, has granted time to the Montenegrin government, so that it may get into communication with the reluctant part of the population in order to appease it and bring about a systematic submission."

"Latest reports from the Austro-Hungarian Press Bureau," adds the Overseas Agency, "state that the negotiations regarding the places where the Montenegrins shall lay down their arms will be closed within a few hours; also that an agreement will be reached regarding the location where they will be provided with food and housed."

"All this," it is explained, "will take a certain amount of time because of the difficulty of communication, which will also influence to some degree the general disposition of the population."

"It is further reported that King Nicholas, in a manifesto to his people, urges the citizens of Cetinje to receive the army of Emperor Francis Joseph as if its arrival were an occasion for popular rejoicing, as this is in the interests of the country and the wish of the King."

## Denies Negotiations Broken Off.

"The documents regarding the capitulation, adds the Press Bureau, were signed by all the Montenegrin ministers, and the foreign reports as to the interruption of the peace negotiations are incorrect. The negotiations have not been interrupted, it is pointed out, because they have not yet been begun, as the opening of negotiations was possible only after the arrival of the Austro-Hungarian delegate, Herr Otto, former Austrian Minister at Cetinje, who was still on his way to Montenegro when the incorrect reports regarding a deadlock were disseminated."

The following official communication from Austria, general headquarters was received to-day:

"The disarming of the Montenegrin army, which is a preliminary condition for further peace negotiations, is proceeding. If they surrender without offering resistance they will be allowed to retain their villages and resume their civilian occupations. Those offering resistance will be forcibly destroyed or marched off as prisoners of war."

"This solution, based on military reasons, the peculiarities of the country and the condition of the inhabitants, will give peace to Montenegro, which has long suffered under war. The Montenegrin supreme command has been informed of our purpose."

The Montenegrin Consulate in Rome, however, last night issued the following note:

## SAYS POPE INSISTS BELGIUM BE FREED

Jesuit Father Brings Word from Rome—Berlin Talks Peace.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The British Embassy to-day issued this statement based on its dispatches from London:

"A distinguished Belgian Jesuit, Father Bonnesse, lately received by the Holy Father, has given the following account of his audience to a Dutch chaplain in the Belgian army on his return."

"The Pope told me, and told me to repeat it along the trenches to men and to officers and even to the King himself, that he considers Belgium has the right to complete reparation from Germany and that he will never consent to offer his good offices for re-establishment of peace unless Belgium has all her territories in Europe and Africa restored her with plenitude, her liberties and her international rights as they existed before, and this without prejudice to her claim for an adequate indemnity to be fixed after a minute inquiry and inventory of all public monuments destroyed, after rebuilding factories and private houses, and restitution of all private property."

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### Beam with Briggs!

His infectious boyhood—effervescent, dramatic, insatiable—sparkles from every line of his sketches.

Your own childish tragedies are depicted in all their stinging reality, and your original "stunts" retold with keen appreciation,—for Briggs never really grew up!

Grin with him this morning on Page 1, Part II.

## The Sunday Tribune

First to Last—the Truth: News-Editorials-Advertisements